REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 19, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 5, 12 and 16 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter is added. Claims 1-7 and 12-18 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-7 and 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,862,345 to Okanoue et al. (Okanoue). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-4 depend, recites a mobile communication system comprising at least one mobile communication network, at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services, and one or more network nodes to which a point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to cells within the service area of the network node. The system includes defining means for defining geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service, each geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service being indicated in the system as a predetermined logical name included in a service request of the point-to-multipoint service wherein a destination area may include cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The system further includes memory means for mapping each logical name corresponding to a geographical destination area at the point-to-multipoint service to one or more network element addresses of the system. The system further comprises that the at least one service center is arranged to inquire, in response to a received service request, from the memory

means the addresses of the network elements corresponding to a logical name in the received service request, and further to transmit the point-to-multipoint service via the network elements to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service.

Claim 5, from which claims 6 and 7 depend, recites a method for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service of a mobile communication system to geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. The mobile communication system includes at least one mobile communication network, at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services and at least one network node through which the point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to cells within its service area. The method further includes defining logical names for geographical destination areas of the point to multipoint service where a destination area may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The method further includes maintaining an address list for each logical name in the mobile communication system, the address list being used for mapping the defined logical names to one or more network element addresses of the system. The method further includes receiving a service request at a full service center including a logical name and mapping the logical name by means of the address list to one or more network element addresses belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. Further, the method includes transmitting the service via the network elements to cells within the service area.

Claim 12, from which 13-15 depend, recites an area register which forms part of a mobile communication system including at least one network, the network including a service center for point-to-multipoint services for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service to a geographical destination area indicated in a service request. The destination area being indicated as logical name included in the service request. The area register includes a list of logical names

corresponding to geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service for at least one service center where a destination area may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes, and at least one network element address list of the system corresponding to each logical name in order to allow a logical name to be mapped to at least one system network element address within the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. The area register further includes processing means for receiving inquiries concerning the logical names and for replying to the inquiries.

Claim 16, from which claims 17 and 18 depend, recites a service center for transmitting point-to-multipoint services in a mobile communication system to a geographical destination area of the service. The service center includes a reception means for receiving a service request including a logical name indicating a destination area of the point-to-multipoint service that may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The service center further includes an inquiry means for mapping the logical name given in the service request to at least one network element address of the system and a transmission means for transmitting the service to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service via each network element.

As discussed above, it is alleged in the Office Action that Okanoue discloses or teaches all of the features recited in the present pending claims. Okanoue discloses a system for location multicasting and database management for mobile sessions in any computer subnetworks without using a home router or a home subnetwork (see title). Okanoue discloses a computer network where mobile hosts may perform a session with fixed hosts in any subnetwork regardless of the presence or absence of an agent facility in the subnetwork. Each mobile host maintains a database that stores a logical and geographical identifiers, datalink lower addresses

and erase timer data of other mobile hosts within the same subnetwork. (See Fig. 3 and col. 3 lines 53-67). When a subnetwork does not comprise an agent the mobile sends multicast packets to all other mobile hosts of the subnetwork. In a subnetwork that does comprise an agent, the agent includes a beacon multicasting facility that at periodic intervals, sends beacon packets to all mobile hosts in the same subnetwork to indicate the identification of the subnetwork. (See col. 4 lines 1-8).

Regarding claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of a system that comprises defining means for defining geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service being indicated in the system as a predetermined logical name included in a service request of the point-to-multipoint service when a destination area may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes, as recited in claim 1. In contrast, Okanoue merely discloses the geographical destination area of beacon multicasting which always corresponds to the geographical extent of the current subnetwork. Therefore, Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest that the extent of multicasting could comprise cells within the service area of more than one subnetwork. Accordingly, Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest that the extent of multicasting will be defined by a logical name included in the multicast packet. As disclosed in Okanoue, the multicast control packets transmitted by a mobile host comprise identifiers and addresses of the mobile host which are not used as a logical name of the destination area for the multicasting. (See column 5, lines 37-45). The unique multicast beacons transmitted by the agent are used to deliver the identity of the subnetwork to the mobile host and therefore in no way corresponds with a service request of a point to multipoint service.

In addition, applicants respectfully submit that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of a memory means for mapping each logical name corresponding to a geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service to one or more network element addresses of the system, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Okanoue merely discloses mapping where logical identifiers of individual mobile hosts located in the same subnetwork are mapped to their own geographical identifiers and data link layer addresses. (See col. 3 lines 37-40).

Further, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of the at least one service center being arranged to inquire in response to a received service request from the memory means the addresses of the network elements corresponding to the logical name in the received service request and to transmit the point-to-multipoint service via the network element to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service as recited in claim 1. In contrast, Okanoue fails to even mention or suggest restricting the transmission to cells belonging to the defined destination area of the point-to-multipoint service.

It is respectfully submitted that since claims 2-4 depend from claim 1, claims 2-4 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 1.

Regarding claim 5, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of defining logical names for geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service where a destination area may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes, as recited in claim 5. Instead, Okanoue merely discloses a geographical destination area of beacon multicasting always corresponds to a geographical extent of the current subnetwork, as discussed above.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of receiving a service request at a first service center, the service request including a logical name, as indicating the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. Instead, as discussed above, Okanoue merely discloses the multicast control packets transmitted by mobile hosts comprise identifiers and addresses of the mobile host not used as a logical name of the destination area for the multicasting.

Further, as discussed above it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of mapping the logical name by means of the address list to one or more network element addresses belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service, as recited in claim 5. Instead, Okanoue merely discloses the logical identifiers of individual mobile hosts located in the same subnetwork are mapped to their own geographical identifiers and datalink layer addresses.

It is further respectfully submitted that Okanue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of transmitting the service via the network element to cells within the service area, as recited in claim 5. Instead, Okanoue fails to even mention or suggest any restriction of the transmission to cells belonging to the defined destination area of the point-to-multipoint service.

It is respectfully submitted that since claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 5, claims 6 and 7 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 5.

Regarding claim 12, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest all the features recited in claim 12. Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of a list of logical names corresponding to geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service for at least one service center and at least one network element address list of the system corresponding to each logical name in order to allow a logical name to be mapped to at least one

system network element address within the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. Instead, Okanoue fails to even mention or suggest the use of logical names in defining geographical destination areas for a point-to-multipoint service. The logical identifiers disclosed in Okanoue are merely the logical identifiers of individual mobile hosts.

It is respectfully submitted that since claims 13-15 depend from claim 12, claims 13-15 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 12.

Regarding claim 16, it is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 16. Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of a service center comprising reception means for receiving a service request including a logical name indicating a destination area of the point-to-multipoint service that may comprise cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes as recited in claim 16. In fact, Okanoue fails to even mention the feature of receiving a service request including a logical name indicating the destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. As discussed above, Okanoue merely discloses that the multicast control package transmitted by mobile hosts comprise identifiers and addresses of the mobile hosts, and are not used as a logical name of the destination area for the multicasting.

It is respectfully submitted that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of an inquiry means for mapping the logical name given in the service request to at least one network element address of the system, as recited in claim 16. Instead as discussed above, Okanoue merely discloses logical identifiers of individual mobile hosts located in the same subnetwork and mapped to their own geographical identifiers and datalink layer addresses.

It is respectfully that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the feature of a transmission means for transmitting the service to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the

point-to-multipoint service via each network element, as recited in claim 16. Instead, Okanoue fails to even mention or suggest any restriction of the transmission to cells belonging to the defined destination area of the point-to-multipoint service.

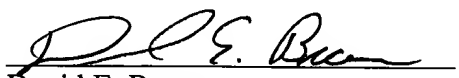
It is respectfully submitted that since claims 17 and 18 depend from claim 16, claims 17 and 18 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 16.

Applicants respectfully submit that Okanoue fails to disclose or suggest the features recited in any of the pending claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of claims 1-7 and 12-16 is respectfully requested. It is further submitted that each of claims 1-7 and 12-16 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-7 and 12-16 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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